Government Legislative and other business as follows:

Business	Time Allotted
1. Consideration and passing of the following Bills, as passed by the Lok Sabha :	
(a) The Consideration (72nd Amendment) Bill, 1990	2 Hrs.
(b) The Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Conditions of Service) Bill, 1990	2 Hrs.
(c) The Comptroller and Auditor General's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill, 1990.	1 Hr.
(d) The Gift Tax Bills, 1990.	2 Hrs.
(e) The Salary and Allowance of Leaders of Opposition in Parliament (Amendment) Bill, 1990.	Half-an-hour.
2. Discussion of the Resolution regarding increase in the excise duty on motor cars	Half-an-hour.

SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL (Gujarat): How can you discuss it in half an hour?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR): You cannot put up that issue here? (*Interruption*). Your excitement has no relevance.

SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: Mr. Vice-Chairman, I have always been an obedient M.P. But I am sorry about this. You cannot pass a Bill this way without discussing it in the House.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR): You missed the bus. The Business Advisory Committee has already negotiated it. Shri Gautam.

SHORT-DURATION DISCUSSION ON THE SITUATION IN SRI LANKA—contd.

श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम (उत्तर प्रदेश) : मान्यवर उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, अपने पड़ौसी राष्ट्र श्रीलंका में उत्पन्न और इस समय विद्यमान स्थिति से हमारा राष्ट्र बहुत ही चिंतित है। मान्यवर, चिंता के बहुत ही प्रमुख कारण हैं। सबसे पहला कारण यह है कि श्रीलंका अतीत में भारत का ही एक अंग था। हमारा उससे आत्मक, सैद्धांतिक और संस्कारों का, संस्कृति का संबंध रहा है। मान्यवर, भगवान बुद्ध के प्रादुर्भाव से जब सारा संसार अवगत हुआ और हमारे देश के सम्राट अशोक महान जब भगवान बुद्ध के उपदेशों पर अपना ईमान लाये तो उन्होंने अपने पुत्र महेन्द्र और पुत्री संघमित्रा को श्रीलंका में भगवान बुद्ध के उपदेशों के प्रचार-प्रसार के लिये भेजा था और श्रीलंका ने भगवान बुद्ध के उपदेशों को ग्रहण किया और अपने जीवन में ढाला। थोड़े समय के उपरांत जब हमारे भारतवर्ष से बुद्ध के उपदेश लोप होने लगे तो अब से करीब 100 वर्ष पहले ही श्रीलंका से अनागरिक धम्मपाल हमारे भारत की भूमि में बुद्ध संदेश को वापस लेकर आए और "महाबोधि सोसायटी ऑफ इंडिया" के नाम से कलकत्ता में एक संगठन का निर्माण करके भगवान बुद्ध के उपदेशों के प्रचार

और प्रसार में बड़ा योगदान दिया। आज भी बड़ी संख्या में श्रीलंका के बौद्ध भिक्षु भारत में रहते हैं और भारत के बहुत से बौद्ध लोग और बौद्धों के डेलीगेशन श्रीलंका में जाते हैं। तो श्रीलंका से हमारा एक बहुत प्राचीन आत्मिक और सांस्कृतिक संबंध रहा है। इसलिए हमारी चिंता स्वाभाविक है। चिंता स्वाभाविक इसलिए भी है कि श्रीलंका हमारा पड़ोसी राष्ट्र है और जब पड़ोसी राष्ट्र में अशांति होती है तब पड़ोसी के घर में भी अशांति का प्रभाव होता है, अशांति की बू आती है।

मान्यवर, हमें चिंता इसलिए भी है कि वहां पर लड़ाई की स्थिति में निर्दोष नागरिक बड़ी संख्या में मारे जा रहे हैं वे नागरिक, जिनका हमारे भारत के नागरिकों के खून का संबंध है। मान्यवर, चिंता इसलिए और भी अधिक है कि बड़ी संख्या में शरणार्थी हमारी भारत भूमि पर आकर न केवल भारत के बोझ को बढ़ा रहे हैं बल्कि हमारे आर्थिक संकट में वृद्धि भी कर रहे हैं और चिंता का विषय इसलिए भी है कि उन शरणार्थियों के साथ कुछ ऐसे लोगों के भी आने की आशंका है जिनके मन में हमारे देश के प्रति अच्छे विचार नहीं हो सकते और हमारे देश की आंतरिक सुरक्षा के लिए वे खतरे का कारण बन सकते हैं।

मान्यवर, यह चिंता का विषय इसलिए और भी ज्यादा है कि अगर यह परिस्थिति इसी प्रकार की बनी रही तो वहां कोई तीसरी शक्ति श्रीलंका में आकर घुसपैठ न कर दें और हमारे देश के लिए खतरा न बन जाए। इसलिए मान्यवर, हमारी सरकार का और हमारे देश के नागरिकों का श्रीलंका में उत्पन्न परिस्थिति से चिंतित होना स्वाभाविक ही है लेकिन उसके समाधान के उपाय सोचने से पहले उन कारणों में भी जाना पड़ेगा कि श्रीलंका में आखिर यह स्थिति उत्पन्न क्यों हुई?

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो० चन्द्रेश पी० ठाकुर, बहुत पुराने कारणों में मत जाइए।

श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम: मान्यवर, मैं उनमें नहीं जाना चाहता। मान्यवर, मैं श्रीलंका गया भी नहीं हूं और मेरे बहुत से साथी जो श्रीलंका के ऊपर बोले हैं शायद उनमें से बहुत कम लोग ही श्रीलंका गए होंगे लेकिन जो हमने पढ़ा है, जो हमने सुना है, जो ज्ञान हमको सुनकर और पढ़कर हासिल हुआ है, हमें जो जानकारी हासिल हुई है उसके आधार पर मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि हमारे तमिल भाई जो वहां बहुत बड़ी संख्या में हैं, उनकी अपनी समस्याएं भी रही हैं और उन समस्याओं के समाधान के लिए श्रीलंका की सरकार से उन्होंने समय-समय पर रहत मांगी है, मांगें की हैं लेकिन मान्यवर, मैं यह भी बताना चाहता हूं कि श्रीलंका की सरकार ने अभी थोड़े दिन पहले एक कमेटी बिठाई थी यह जानकारी हासिल करने के लिए कि आखिर देश में अशांति क्यों है?

महोदय, अन्य कारणों के साथ उस कमेटी ने अपनी रिपोर्ट में कहा कि इस देश में गरीब और अमीर के बीच में बहुत बड़ी खाई है। गरीबों का उत्पीड़न हो रहा है, सरकार में भ्रष्टाचार है, भाई-भतीजावाद है, डेमोक्रेसी के नाम पर गरीब लोगों को संसद में आने से रोका जा रहा है और सबसे बड़ी समस्या श्रीलंका की यह है कि वहां पर 45 परसेंट लोग ऐसे हैं जो नौजवान हैं और 24 साल से कम उम्र के हैं। सालना करीब 2 लाख लड़के यूनिवर्सिटीज में दाखिले के लिए जाते हैं, इम्तहान में बैठते हैं, 35,000 पास होते हैं और केवल 6,000 दाखिला पाते हैं। बाकी लोगों को दाखिला नहीं मिलता। इस प्रकार से नौजवान वहां पर निराश हैं, दिशाहीन हैं, उनका भविष्य अंधकारमय है। ये सभी समस्याएं वहां की अशांति में जुड़ गई हैं। मान्यवर, सरकार ने इन समस्याओं के समाधान के लिए उस कमेटी की रिपोर्ट पर विचार किया और कुछ सिफारिशों को लागू करने के लिए, उनका कार्यान्वयन करने के लिए कदम भी उठाए। और राजनीति में नैतिकता की प्रस्थापना के लिए भगवान बुद्ध के

[प्रो० चन्द्रेय पी० ठाकुर]

सिद्धान्तों को कानून में जोड़ा लेकिन फिर भी इस स्थिति पर काबू नहीं हो पाया। मैं अपने तमिल भाइयों से क्षमा चाहते हुए भी कहना चाहता हूं कि उसका कारण यह भी हुआ कि तमिलों के कई ग्रुप हो गए। वे बजाय सामूहिक रूप से लड़ाई लड़ते, अपनी अपनी सुप्रीमेसी स्थापित करने के लिए आपस में लड़ते रहे। आप मान्यवर, खुद गवाह है तमिलों की लड़ाई के। कल उधर के तमिल भाई और बहन इधर के तमिल भाइयों और बहनों से लड़ते रहे। उन्होंने वहां पर आपस में लड़ाई आरंभ कर दी अपनी अपनी सुप्रीमेसी स्थापित करने के लिए। वहां पर सामूहिक लड़ाई न होने की वजह से एक दूसरे ग्रुप पर हावी होने की वजह से वहां के तमिलों की समस्याएं पीछे चली गई।

मान्यवर, हमने अभी अखबारों में पढ़ा कि वहां पर बौद्ध भिक्षुओं को मारा गया। वहां पर मस्जिदों में नमाज पढ़ते हुए मुसलमानों को मारा गया। दो ही बातें हो सकती है। या तो सरकार मरवा सकती है या उग्रवादी मरवा सकते हैं। अभी थोड़े दिन पहले हमारे तमिलनाडु में भी लोग मारे गए। प्रकाश में जो तथ्य आए उनमें उन्हीं लोगों की हत्या हुई जो वहां की तमिलों की लड़ाई में पड़े हैं..मैं चर्चा में न जाकर, यही कहना चाहूंगा कि यह हमारे लिए गंभीर चिन्ता का विषय है, सरकार को इस पर चिन्तित होना चाहिए। ... (**समय** की घंटी)

दो ही बातें मान्यवर मैं कहना चाहता हूं। एक तो वहां पर इंटरफियर करने से पहले इस बात का ध्यान रखा जए कि हमारा कोई कदम ऐसा न उठे जिससे हमारा पड़ोसी राष्ट्र हमसे होस्टाइल हो जाए। दूसरे हम कोई ऐसा कदम न उठाएं कि हमारे देश के अंदर आतंकवादी, उग्रवादी और अलगववादी ताकतों को प्रोत्साहन मिले। कल हमारे कम्यूनिस्ट भाई ने कहा कि तमिलों का आटोनोमस अलग प्रान्त बनाया जाए। तो यहां जो खालिस्तान की मांग कर रहे हैं और काश्मीर के अंदर जो अलगाववाद की बात उठा रहे हैं या जो यहां पर गोरखालैंड की मांग कर रहे थे उनकी बात को भी हमें ध्यान में रखना चाहिए। हमारे यहां अलगाववादी ताकतों को बढ़ावा न मिल जाए, इसलिए मैं विनम्र शब्दों में निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि वहां पर हमारी सरकार यहां से ज्वाइंट पार्लियामेंटरी कमेटी तुरन्त भेजे। वहां की सरकार से संघर्ष स्थापित करे और समस्या का समाधान निकाले क्योंकि मेरे नोटिस में यह बात आई है कि श्रीलंका की सरकार इसके लिए रजामंद है। और कहती है कि हम चाहते हैं कि कंप्रोमाइज हो। हम यह भी चाहते हैं कि तमिलों को कंसल्ट करें लेकिन हमारे यहां पर आम सहमति हो। तो वहां के विभिन्न तमिल ग्रुपों से जाकर मिला जाए। अपने तमिल भाइयों से मेरी प्रार्थना है कि सारे तमिल ग्रुपों को प्रैशराइज किया जए कि एक होकर कोई सामूहिक निर्णय लें और सामूहिक रूप से इस समस्या का समाधान निकाला जाए। यहां जो रिफ्यूजी कैंप हैं, श्रीलंका सरकार से बात करके वहां पर उनके लिए अलग कैंप स्थापित कर उन्हें वहां बसाकर यहां से वहां वापस भेज दिया जाए क्योंकि हमारे देश में पहले ही बहुत रिफ्यूजी बैठे हुए हैं। अगर यही हालत बनी रही तो हजारों सालों से रिफ्यूजियों ने आकर इस देश का बोझ बढ़ाया है, वह और भी बढ़ता जएगा। इसलिए मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि जो लोग शरणार्थी हैं, जो यहां आये हैं उनसे भी संपर्क स्थापित किया जये और उनसे पूछा जाए कि वे यहां क्यों आए हैं। आखिर वहां की समस्याएं क्या हैं जिससे कि उनको यहां आना पड़े। इस लड़ाई की क्या जरूरत थी, उनकी क्या मजबूरी थी। श्रीलंका की सरकार यह भी कहती है कि जफना में जो लड़ाई हो रही है, उसकी जांच के लिए इसे इंटरनेशनल कमेटी फार रेडक्रास सोसायटी को भी देने के लिए वह तैयार है। और इसे असैनिक क्षेत्र घोषित करने को तैयार है। तो इस क्षेत्र पर भी विचार किया

जाए तो लड़ाई बंद होने का एक तरीका यह भी हो सकता है ।

मैं विनम्र शब्दों में यह कहना चाहूंगा कि हमारा पड़ोसी राष्ट्र हालैंड है, हमारे देश में अलगाववादी शक्तियों को प्रोत्साहन न मिले, डिप्यूजीज की संख्या हमारे देश में न बढ़े । आपस में विचारों का आदान-प्रदान करके हमारे प्रतिनिधि एक साथ इकट्ठे बैठकर इस समस्या का हल निकालें । इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूं । धन्यवाद ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR): Now, Mr. G. Swaminathan.

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, many honourable Members have spoken on the Sri Lankan issue yesterday and today. The honourable Member who spoke just before me cited one reason for the disturbances in Sri Lanka and he said that one of the reasons for this is that there are a large number of people who are poverty-stricken, who are uneducated, and there are some people who are very rich. He said that that is why the fight is going on Sri Lanka. He has also said that there has been a fight amongst the Tamils here and, similarly, there has been a fight amongst the Tamils in Sri Lanka too and that is the reasons why disturbances are there in Sri Lanka. But I wish to mention to him the main reason. The main reason for the fight in Sri Lanka is not either poverty or riches. Poverty is there in all the under-developed countries including India and that is another matter. But with regard to Sri Lanka the main point is that it is the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka which has been mentioned yesterday by many speakers here, and very forcefully by the ruling party Member, Shri Yeshwant Sinha. I do not want to go into the genesis of the problem of discrimination in Sri Lanka. The honourable Member who spoke just before me also said that he has not been to Sri Lanka and that whatever he says is after reading various newspaper reports. We have been to Sri Lanka and I have gone to Sri Lanka and we know the difficulties and the sufferings of the Sri Lankan people. A few years ago, about four or five years ago, I went there and I had discussions with many people there. The sufferings of the Tamils there have been there even before the militant activities started and that should be made known ti the people here. The Tamil population in Sri Lankan is about 25 per cent or so and about 70 per cent comprises Sinhalese and there are other ethnic groups also. But, as has been pointed out yesttrday by many speakers, the Tamils have been relegated to a secondary position and they have been relegated to the position of second-class citizens. Originally, Tamil was one of the national languages there in Sri Lanka. Now, it has been taken away and Sinhalese has been made the national language there. Tamil has no place there. Not only that Tamil has no place there, but also the Tamils find it extremely difficult to have a place there. The Tamils find it extremely difficult to get themselves educated because the schools and colleges are closed to the Tamil students there. They cannot go to the schools and colleges there because of the discrimination. The argument advanced is that the Tamils have been well educated during the British rule and they have been occupying very important positions. It is also said that some of them are highly educated and some of them have been educated abroad and many of the Sinhalese who have not been educated have been saying this and they also say that the Tamils have been occupying important positions in the Government and now they have to differentiate and discriminate against them. They are saying, "You Tamils have beebn occupving very important positions in Sri Lanka and, naturally, in college admissions now there has to be reverse discrimination and college admissions cannot be given to Tamils.".

[Shri G. Swaminathan]

It is not only in college admissions the Tamils have been discriminated against, but they have been discriminated against in employment also. In respect of employment also, the Tamils have been treated as second-class citizens. Job opportunities are available only to the "Bhoomiputras" and jobs are given only to the Sinhalese and not to the Tamils. Not being able to get educated properly and not being able to get job opportunities, some of the Tamil students Tamil students want to start some business. But, when they go to the banks, bank credit also is not given to them and no loans are being advanced to the Tamils because of the policy of the Government that business opportunities should be open only to the Sinhalese and not to the Tamils. This is the kind of situation which is there and, because of this, many of the Tamils have gone abroad and whatever opportunities they got abroad, for getting educated or getting employed, they utilized and they went abroad. Lakhs of Tamil people have gone abroad. But many of those people who could not get educated could not go and they have to remain in Sri Lanka itself and they have been pushed to the wall and have been beaten by the Sinhalese. Consequently, this kind of an ethnic fight has started in Sri Lanka. The genesis of this problem goes back to so many years For hundreds of years the Tamils have been there and the Sinhalese also have been there. Some people tried to compare the present problem in Sri Lanka with the Punjab problem and the Kashmir problem. The previous speaker said that just as the terrorist activities should not be allowed in Punjab or Kashmir, they should not be allowed in Sri Lanka also He said that this should not be allowed in Sri Lanka also. Sir, I need to inform you that the comparison of Punjab and Kashmir is not relevant to the question of ethnic fight in Sri Lanka. In Sri Lanka, Sir, people have been discriminated against. In Punjab and Kashmir they have been given all the advantages to the people who may be living in Kashmir and Punjab. Still if they have a fight against the Government of India as we see today, it is not because of the discrimination of the Government against the people of Punjab or the people of Kashmir. It is mainly because of their own aspirations. But in Sri Lanka, Sir, when they want to have an independent Elam, it is mainly because they have been discriminated against and no opportunity has been given to them to live honourably. That is the question that the Government of India has to resolve.

Sir, as I told you yesterday when the hon. Member Shri Yashwant Sinha spoke here and when the hon. Minister of Foreign Affairs was also present here, the only grouse that I want to mention because of paucity of time is that recently, as soon as the National Front Government came into this country, Within two days the hon. Minister of Sri Lanka who came here wanted an understanding with the Government. And it was said that this Government will have some understanding with Sri Lanka and try to solve this problem. After he came here, within three or four days the hon. Minister of Foreign Affairs issued a statement saying that the Sri Lankan problem is an internal problem and the Government of India is not going to interfere in the affairs of Sri Lanka. Sir, this statement caused a great deal of disappointment among the Tamils and we belonging to the AIADMK party also sent a telegram and the Members of Parliament sent a telegram to the Minister saying that it is not fair for you to say that the problem of Sri Lanka is an internal problem and you will not interfere with that. I am very unhappy that because of this statement the Sri Lankan Government has taken an upper position and they knowing fully well that the

Government of India will not interfere whatever they may do to the Tamil minority there, have been bombing the areas and uprooting the civilians and many thousands of civilian people are being killed because of indifferent attitude of the National Front Government. Not only that, even though they belong to another country, suppose it is an adjoining house where there has been fire, even though you may say it is adjoining house where I am not concerned, the fire may come to your own country. That is the position there. The continued association of Sri Lankan Tamils and the Tamilians in Tamil Nadu have gone on for thousands of years. Not only for thousands of years, but if you come to Thanjavur district or many other places which are closer to those areas, many of our family members are living in Sri Lanka. So it is an emotional bond between the Tamilians of India and the Tamilians of Sri Lanka. So the Government cannot wash its hands off by saying that it will not interfere in their affairs. Yesterday an hon. Member of the National Front Government said that the Government of India has got many avenues: it has got diplomatic avenue, it can think of political avenues, it can send parliamentary delegations, and even military operations can also be there. Sir, I hope that the hon. Minister will come with a firm understanding of the situation, and he will come forthright with a statement that he will not allow this bombing to go on and he will not allow the Tamilian population to die. (*Interruptions*).

The question of their wanting a separate country is not our concern. It is a thing that they have to decide themselves. We from India want they live in peace there. But if the population of Sri Lanka want a separate Elam it is what they have to decide. We are not the people to decide whether to have a separate country or not. What we are mainly concerned with from this side, Sir, is that the Government firmly interere in this matter and immediately negotiate either at the diplomatic level or even on a mightier level with whatever facilties they they have got to see that this bombarment and this human rights violation is stopped fortwith. That is the aspiration of the people, and on behalf of the AIDMK party I again forcefully inform the Minister that we look forward to a very firm statement from the hon. Minister that he will immediately interfere because the Tamil population is almost going to be annihilated. We cannot allow this to go on. Even yesterday we wanted to speak, Sir. Even one day ill count in the lives of several millions of people in Sri Lanka.

We cannot afford to keep quiet and I hope the Government will take a firm action in this matter and announce the firm acton at least today.

Thank you very much.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR): Mr. Subramanian Swamy Very brief.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Uttar Pradesh): Very brief, Sir. Sir, I will deal with only on issue, and that is the crux of the problem.

The Sri Lankan problem is simply this that the Sinhala majority does not want to share power with the

6.00 P.M.

The Tamil minority. The Tamils are roughly 24 per cent of the population. In fact, the northern Tamils have been there from the very beginning, from time immemorial. The Sinhala presence in the Island is due to migration from southern Bihar and Orissa whereas the Tamils of the Jaffna areas have been there from the very beginning. Now, all of a sudden, the Tamils have become foreigners in their own country. They are being treated as foreigners. There is a misconception in India that these are the people who went from here and there to that country during the

[Shri Subramanian Swamy]

British rule. That is not so at all. These are the southern Tamils who are in the plantation area. The Tamils in the northern and the eastern parts of Sri Lanka, in fact, are the original inhabitants of that Island. If the country of Sri Lanka belongs to any people of that Island, it belongs to the Tamil people more than what it belongs to the sinhala people. But there is a failure to share power. Tweny-four per cent of the population is Tamil and the Sri Lankan majority has been following a unitary constitution and has been holding on to hundred per cent of power. As a consequence, despite the Tamils being 24 per cent of the population, their presence in the Army is only half a per cent, their presence in the Police is only one per cent, their share in the employment in public sector is only 3 per cent and their share in the Five-Year Plan investment is only 5 per cent. On top of that, Tamils, for long periods, have to get 25 per cent more marks than the Sinhala students in order to be treated at par and even entry into the professional courses was banned in this way. This is the key point. The Tamils did not want Eelam for a long time.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR): What is this question of marks?

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: They have a procedure which was introduced in 1972. It is called standardisation of marks. By this procedure, the Tamil students have to get 25 per cent more marks than the Sinhala students to be treated at par for admission to professional colleges. These are the facts that are not known. I am sorry that the BJP Member who talked about Khalistan and compared the demand of the Tamils to that of Khalistan, is not here. There is no comparison at all to the question of Khalistan. Nobody can say that the population of Sikhs has been discriminated against. But the way the Tamils are being discriminated in Sri Lanka is unparalled in the history of the world. Therefore, I am surprised at the patience of the Tamils. They have put up with this nonsense for such a long time. They have asked for Eelam only after 1977 and in particular after 1983. Till that time, they had hope that they can stay as one in that Island. This is the circumstance in which this whole conflict is going on. The refusal of the Sinhala majority to have a federal Constitution and to have devolution of power is responsible. They have a unitary constitution unlike our country. We have so many Assemblies and States. In Sri Lanka, they have only one Parliament. There are no assemblies. All the power is cornered by the majority Sinhalese. So, we have not been understanding this in this country.

The IPKF went to Sri Lanka with the aim of providing a federal constitution, devolution of power and to prevent the formation of Eelam. I agree with Mr. Swaminathan that it is not our business to decide whether they should have Eelam or not. Anyway, the Indian Army went there with the purpose of having devolution of power and getting a federal constitution. Now the National Front Government unilaterally pulled out the IPKF. But the Agreement that Mr. Rajiv Gandhi signed with Jayewardene was not for a unilateral pull out of the IPKF. It was a conditional agreement subject to the devolution of power and the adoption of the federal constitution. Now the National Front Government changed that policy unilaterally by agreeing to a unilateral withdrawal of the IPKF. This is the biggest blunder that they have committed for which we are today paying a price. Anyway, once the IPKF has been withdraw, then you have no business to tell the Tamils what to do. In fact, during the 27 months the IPKF was there in the Island, they weakened the Tamil militant force there. Now we may disagree on what the Tamil forces were doing. But we are all

Tamils when it comes to fighting the Sinhalas. That is one point that we must remember. These people were fighting to defend the Tamils. The IPKF weakned this force and then you pulled out. During these 27 months, the Sinhala Army was modernised with the help of so many countries. They got rest and recuperation while we were fighting and we were getting killed there. And now this refurbished, strengthened Sinhala Army is moving to the North, and the National Front Government is doing nothing but sleeping over this whole issue.

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: They are saying that they would not interfere.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: They are saying that they are not interfering, thereby encouraging those Sinhala fascists there. So much so, Sir, the Defence State Minister and Foreign Minister Ranjan Wijratne says that when the Sinhala Army goes to the Tamil areas, the Tamils will piss. I am sorry to use an unparliamentary word But when that man does not have any sense of parliamentary propriety why should I have a sense of parliamentary propriety?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR): For our Parliament.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Well, Sir, you may use cerain parliamentary alternative to 'piss'. I do not know what that is. But, anyway, this is the language he has spoken. Supposing I say that the 55 million Tamils of Tamil Nadu decide to combine with them, then what will happen to the Sinhalas? Can I use an unparliamentary word to describe what will happen to the Sinhalas? They will make 'chutney' of the Sinhalas. Let them know that.

Sir, the Government of India has withdrawn unilaterally. Now, you either go back and tell the Sinhalas that you will intervene if this continues or you should actively help the formation of EELAM and let the Tamils do what they were doing from the very beginning. The Tamils were prevented from going for Eelam by sending the IPKF. When you pulled out the IPKF unilaterally, it was your responsibility to create EELAM, and allow the Tamils to defend themselves. You did neither. In effect, the effect of the policy of the National Front Government is to help the Sinhalas. This must be arranged and the Sinhala government must be told, either have a federal Constitution or we will recognise an independent Tamil country called Eelam. That is what they have to do.

Thank you very much, Sir.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Pondicherry): Don't divide Sri Lanka. (*Interruptions*) Separatist forces are supporting you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR): Mr. S. K. T. Ramachandran. You have to be brief.

SHRI S.K.T. RAMACHANDRAN (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, at the outset, I congratulate Mrs. Jayanthi Natarajan, Mr. Nallasivan and Mr. Subramanian Swamy...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR): You sound like replying as a Minister.

SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: ...for their spirited speeches and their balanced deliberations (*Interruption*) I appreciate Mr. Gopalsamy for his restrained speech.

Sir, what is going on in Sri Lanka has no precedent or parallel in the

whole history of the world, Sir, have you ever heard of a mother strangling her own child? The Sri Lankan Government is waging a war against its own citizens. By resorting aerial bombardment, it is indulging in genocide. If it goes unabated, a time will come when the whole Tamil population will be wiped out from the Island. Now, the question is how to save the Tamils from such destruction and devastation. Sir, here I want to mention one thing. So long as the IPKF was there, the Tamils were peaceful. The Tamils were not touched by the Sinhala Forces. The IPKF was a bulwark against these murderers. The moment the IPKF was totally de-inducted, they started these atrocities. Here, I have to share the truth also. The LTTE is also partly responsible for this outcome. The IPKF went there to save the Tamils, to protect the Tamils to get an independent State for them, an autonomous State for them, as the States in India. I do not know what happened to the LTTE. Probably, they would have been jealous of the IPKF. Or, their despotic and hegemonistic attitude would have militated against their joining hands with the I.P.K.F., to protect the Tamils. Therefore, the cause for such a devastation rests on from the Tamil groups themselves.

Secondly, the L.T.T.E. had a short honeymoon with the Sri Lankan Government. They were in collusion with the Sri Lankan Government. They wanted that the I.P.K.F. should go away from Sri Lanka in a short time. Even at that time, we warned them, 'Don't rely on the Sri Lankan Government; they are always cunning'. The I.T.T.E. would have thought in a different way. They would have thought that the moment the I.P.K.F. went out of Sri Lanka, they could get over the Sri Lankan forces and establish their own rule in Eclam. Therefore, both these groups having sinister motives, were in collusion with each other. This was the cause, the immediate cause, for such a situation in Sri Lanka today.

The third reason is, as Mr. Subramanian Swamy just now stated, the lethargic slumber of the National Front Government. In Sri Lanka, thousands of Tamils are being killed. They are being killed every day. What is this Government doing? What steps have they taken to arrest this situation? Did the Foreign Minister ever visit Sri Lanka? Or, did he ever invite his counterpart to come here to discuss the issue? What have they done? What is their contribution towards arresting the situation there, the burning situation? Not only the geographical contiguity of Sri Lanka, but the ethnic relations also compel us to involve ourselves in bringing about a settlement in Sri Lanka.

There are three important factors which have to be considered now. Firstly, the economic burden. Because of the crisis there, every day, thousands of Tamils run away from Sri Lanka to Tamil Nadu. The exodus of refugees has reached the figure of more than one lakh. It is a burden not of the Tamil Nadu Government, but of the Central Government also. We are talking about the financial crisis. At this time, we have to bear this burden also.

Secondly, there is the risk to our security. Mr. Foreign Minister, kindly take note of this. Shri Lanka occupies a strategic position. If Sri Lanka is totally devastated, we also face a threat to our security.

Thirdly, there is a threat to our unity also. Thousands of people are coming every day. The influx is very large. How can you screen them? Those people who are accustomed to the gun culture may smuggle themselves into Tamil Nadu. They may come into Tamil Nadu. If they are allowed to continue in Tamil Nadu, if such criminals are allowed to stay in Tamil Nadu, what will happen?

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI (Tamil Nadu): Please don't use the word 'criminals'.

SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: I do not say, Mr. Viduthalai Virumbi,...

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Mr. Ramachandran, the discussion is taking place, cutting across party lines.

SHRI PASUMPON THA. KIRUTTINAN (Tamil Nadu): Your Government established army camps for the L.T.T.E. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: I do not mean any Tamil militants. (*Interruptions*). You are not listening to me properly. (*Interruptions*). I am not saying any Tamil militants. I do not mean 'Tamil militants'. With folded hands I want to make my point clear. (*Interruptions*).

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR): He is not talking to you, he is talking to me. Yes, go on.

SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Some criminals may also come in. Some smugglers may also come in. How can you screen them when thousands and thousands are purging in? So do not misunderstand me. I am with you. I am ready to fight for your cause. It is not only your or my cause but it is our cause. When the race is extinguishing how can we tolerate it? So, never try to sidetrack me. If you are allowing such criminals or such insane people to come in, they will play with our culture. If such a culture is imported in such a manner in India, what will happen? What will happen to the unity of India? What will happen to the peace in India?

SHRI T. A. MOHAMMED SAQHY (Tamil Nadu): Indian land will not take gun culture.

SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: So, I want to say that the IPKF was the only force which protected the Tamils from masacre. It did not kill but saved Tamils. (*Interruptions*) You used it for political purpose. You wanted to exploit the situation for political purpose. (*Interruptions*).

Instead of praising, paying tribute or applauding the services of IPKF, if anyone condemns or speaks ill of them, he lacks patriotism and he is to be condemned by the whole nation.

To save Tamils and also to save Sri Lanka, so that all sections in Sri Lanka are united. We should see that amity prevails there. The Tamils and Sinhalese could live together. They have lived together for thousands of years and now also they can live together. Therefore, I want this Government to wake up from slumber. It should act, it should take steps to convince both the sides, the Sinhalese Government and the Tamils. For this the Government should take the whole nation into confidence. It should take all other parties into confidence. It should have a round table conference. Or it should adopt some means through which it could approach the Sri Lankan Government to immediately stop killing the Tamils. It should take immediate steps to solve the crisis.

I suggest that the Prime Minister may take into confidence the leaders of different parties and they should make a joint appeal to the Sri Lankan Government and Sri Lankan people to refrain from violence. At the same time, the Tamils should take the responsibility of bringing all the Tamil forces in Sri Lanka, in Eelam, together. The work should be entrusted to the Tamil leaders. Instead of entrusting the work to one or two persons, it should be entrusted to whole Tamil Nadu So a team of leaders consisting of different political parties of Tamil Nadu should be taken into confidence and this work should be entrusted to them. I can suggest even the names of the leaders who can win the confidence of the Tamils there. Mr. Karunanidhi, Mr. G. K. Moopnar Selvi Jayalalitha, Mr. M. P. Sivg-

[Shri S. K. T. Ramachanran]

nana Grananiar and Mr. Sivaji Ganesan. All these eminent leaders should be taken into confidence and a committee consisting of these five leaders should be immediately constituted and allowed to negotiate with all the different groups of Tamil militants.

If the National Front Government acts immediately, we can find a lasting solution to the Sri Lanka problem. I want to say Mr. Rajiv Gandhi did yeoman service to the Tamils in Sri Lanka. He helped them to have an autonomous state to them. He assisted them to obtain the status of Tamil language at par with the Shinhali language there. Above all, with valour and courage, he protected the interests of the Tamils and he saved the Tamil community. If you want to save Sri Lankan unity, immediately you shou'd act and arrest the growing tendency of killing a whole ethhnic group.

So, if the National Front Government acts, taking into confidence all the Tamil leaders, we can save Sri Lankan Tamils, save India, keep India united is our theme. So I, once again, make an appeal to the National Front Government if you can do this, you stick to power. If you cannot save the Sri Lankan Tamils if you cannot save Kashmir, if you cannot save Punjab and if you cannot save Assam, what right have you to be in power? With this, I conclude my speech. Thank you Mr. Vice-Chairman.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR): Dr. Thulasi Reddy.

SHRI T. A. MOHAMMED SAQHY: While mentioning the leaders of Tamil Nadu, you forgot to mention the names of Mr. Sivam Nallasivam and Mr. Manickam from CPI(M) and C.P.I.

SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: I thank you for the suggestion. They can also be included.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR): Dr. Thulasi Reddy, will you yield for a minute?

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर (उत्तर प्रदेश) श्रीमन्, श्रीलंका के विषय में और खास तौर से जो हमारे तमिल बंधु वहां पर हैं उनके विषय में मैं अपने दल की नीति को स्पष्ट करना चाहता हूं। मुझे पता लगा है कि हमारे साथी ने कुछ गलतफहमी की है। हम मानते हैं कि श्रीलंका में रहने वाले तमिल हमारे भाई हैं, हमारे खून का खून हैं और हमारे मांस का मांस है।

They are of our own flesh and blood.

जब कोई मेरे साथी बोलते हैं कि तमिलनाडु का सवाल है तो मुझे दुख होता है। यह तमिलनाडु का सवाल नहीं है, यह सारे देश का सवाल है।

It is not limited to Tamil Nadu.

यह जरूर है हम किसी देश की एकता को तोड़ते नहीं चाहते। सिलोन की एकता टूटे यह हम नहीं चाहते, लेकिन जो हमारे भाई वहां पर मौजूद हैं उनकी सुरक्षा के लिए हमें चिन्ता अवश्य है इसलिए किसी को यह गलतफहमी होना कि खालिस्तान जैसा मूवमेंट है, मैं समझता हूं कि यह गलत है पाकिस्तान गड़बड़ कर रहा है, लेकिन पाकिस्तान कोई यहां के सिखों से, अकालियों से या जो भी कर रहे हैं उनसे कोई नाता नहीं है। हमारा नाता खून-मांस का है तमिल बन्धुओं के साथ, इसलिए हम जो कुछ करते हैं वहां पर हम कोई उनके अन्दरूनी मामले में दखल देना नहीं चाहते, लेकिन यह जरूर चाहते हैं कि उनके अधिकार मिलना चाहिएं और स्वतंत्र ईलम बने न बने, यह उनका मामला है। लेकिन उनको जो आश्वासन दिए गए थे कि एक अधिकार सम्पन्न उनका एक अलग राज्य बनेगा, वह तो बनना ही चाहिए। मेरी पार्टी श्रीलंका के सवाल में तमिलनाडु के लोगों को कहना चाहती है कि हम उनके साथ हैं क्योंकि वे हमारे भाई हैं, हमारी बहन हैं, हमारी मां हैं, हमारे खून का हिस्सा है।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR): Dr. Thulasi Reddy. It is already 6.25. Please be brief.

†DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): But, Sir....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR): I know, but I am making a request.

DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Sir, though I am not a Tamilian by birth, I am a semi-Tamilian. My wife is a Tamilian. So please give me a little more time.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR). Please listen to me.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: We are all Indians.

DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: First of all I am an Indian. I am a semi-Tamilian because my wife is a Tamilian. So please grant me the maximum possible time.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR): That does not mean that you shouldn't be brief.

DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Only ten minutes, Sir.

SHRI T. A. MOHAMMED SAQHY: By language Telugu, by marriage Tamilian!

DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Mr. Vice-Chairman Sir, anarchy is rempant in today's Sri Lanka, which once enjoyed a strong economy comparable with countries like Korea and Taiwan. Rifts and Wars between Tamils and Sinhalese resulting in deaths and chaos have destroyed the law and order situation in Sri Lanka, thus turning it into a war-ridden country like Combodia, Cyprus Lebanon and Afghanistan. There seems to be no end to this civil war. Sri Lankan government seems to have lost its hold over the prevailing situation. Economic inequalities, diversified attitudes and approaches have resulted in this chaotic situation. Tamils, Sinhalese, India-loving Tamils, India-opposing Tamils, opposition group Sinhalese, conservative Sinhalese—thus there is no end to the differences among the people of Sri Lanka.

All of a sudden, in the midst of a busy street a rifle spraying bullets. A man dies instantly and drops to ground. Bullet-sounds from the weapons of soldiers and terrorists ring in the air, resulting in more deaths and chaos. The whole Country turns into a grave yard. Dead bodies are seen all round, on road sides on trees, Some even floating about in rivers and streams. Terrorists capture those persons noted in the hit list, tie their hands back, hang tyres round their necks, douse them them with kerosene and burn them alive by lighting them with cigarette ends. This has become common practice among terrorists and extremists. Now it is a common feature for school children standing on the bridges to see floating corpses in the rivers and streams. Prices of fish fell steep due to the fact that people refused to buy those fish feeding on floating human dead bodies. This is a true illustration of the grave situation in Sri Lanka. It the deteriorating law and order situation is not brought under control, the Sri Lankan people may have to float in their own blood. Innocent people are killed in the battle between Sri Lankan Army and the Tamil militants Many army vehicles are getting burnt and destroyed due to the explosions of mines on roads.

Teachers could not teach in schools, Doctors could not practice and Lawyers could not attend Courts. For the last four years, not a single degree was awarded in convocations. All the eight universities and 212 high schools remain closed most of the year For the last five years, medical colleges are not functioning. Educated women of Sri Lanka are fleeing their country for governess' jobs in foreign countries Those with latest and entrepreneurial abilities are migrating to other countries The rift-ridden situation in Sri Lanka is provoking small children to wield guns, not caring for their own lives

†English translation of the original speech in Telugu delivered.

[Dr. Narreddy Thulasi Reddy]

even before their innocent childhood. Even the peace-loving Buddhist monks are ready to go to the battle field for their own country.

The inflation rate of 14 per cent last year, has risen to 20 per cent and is still on the increase. The foreign investers and traders left the country for fear of this grave economic situation.

Sir, we tried our level best to bring in peace in Sri Lanka since it is our neighbour country and our Tamilians and Muslims are living there. As per the Indo-Sri Lankan accord, we have sent our Indian Peace Keeping Forces for which we had to pay a heavy price. At the rate of 5 crore rupees per day we spent almost 3000 crores on the army.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: He is distorting facts. It is not Rs. 3000 crores. Why is he giving wrong facts?

DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: These are my views.... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: You don't know anything about it.... (*Interruptions*)...I am telling you about the money that has been spent (*Interruptions*).

DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: My own views I am telling.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: As a Member of Parliament, don't give wrong facts before the House.

†DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: I want to know from where we could get such large amounts? Is it not the tax revenue paid by the poor people of our country who do not have enough food and clothing, who cannot even afford to buy medicines? Many Bharat jawans lost their lives leaving their widows behind. Are we not responsible for this? We could either gain the affection of Tamilians or Sinhalese. In humilitation IPKF was forced to come back to our country. What is the situation now? Is there any chance of improvement?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR): You want to listen to the Minister also, Isn't it? Please conclude quickly.

DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: They are fighting with helicopter and explosives in Sri Lanka. Innocent people are the victim of this battle.

Sir, now there is the problem of refugees flowing into our country. What should we do about it? Should we remain a silent spectator considering it to be an internal war of Sri Lanka? Or should we consider it a problem of humanity and a problem which our neighbour country is facing? Should our army interfere as our Tamilians, our Indians are in trouble? Will the interference of army be a right step? What about the refugees? Should we invite them or refuse them? What about the Militants entering our country as refugees? Should we ignore them or prevent them? These are the problems we are facing now.

Sir, we should recollect the past. We should think of the situation under which Indian Peace Keeping Force come back. What is the situation of Russia in Afghanistan? What is the situation of America in Vietnam? What is the economic situation of India? If we consider all this, I feel that the interference of army was a foolish, hasty and suicidal decision. How else to tackle the situation? We should tackle the situation through negotiations internal and diplomatic pressures. What about the flow of refugees entering our country? Do

†English translation of the original speech delivered in Telugu.

we have the capacity to manage? We should pressuring Sri Lankan government to establish refugee camps in the East and North-East areas of Sri Lanka with the help of Red Cross and UNO.

What about the Militants entering our country? At present, when we are facing terrorist problem in Assam, Punjab and Kashmir, we should act tactfully. We should not make Tamil Nadu another Sri Lanka or Assam or Punjab. Are we in a positions to face more such problems?

No. So, Militants should be prevented from entering our country.

In conclusion, I suggest that all political parties especially political parties of Tamil Nadu should act appropriately, tactfully, fore sightedly and intelligently. We should unitedly try our best to solve this problem. I conclude Sir, Thanking you for giving me this opportunity. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR): Thank you very much. There is very little time. Shri Rajmohan Gandhi, a few minutes.

श्री राम अवधेश सिंह (बिहार) उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मेरा भी नाम है इसमें ?

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो० चन्द्रेश पी० ठाकुर) : नाम तो है, और सदस्यों का भी, लेकिन समय किसी के लिए नहीं है ।

He is the last speaker, please. (*Interruptions*).

श्री राम अवधेश सिंह : मंडल कमीशन के लिए ही लड़ाई हो रही है, सत्ता में हिस्सेदारी नहीं मिल रही है, इसीलिए ही वहां लड़ाई हो रही है। . . . (व्यवधान)

SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Why are you unnecessarily standing?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR): This is Sri Lanka issue please.

SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Awadhesh Singh Ji, please take it in a lighter vein. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJ MOHAN GANDHI (Uttar Pradesh): Mr. Vice-Chairma , I am very happy to yield to Shri Bhattacharjee. I will take only one minute and yield to him.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR): Please carry on.

SHRI RAJ MOHAN GANDHI: We have to ask ourselves a question: where does the security of the Tamils life? One... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: Sir, if there is a conversation going on at the level of the Chair, we are getting disturbed.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR): The issue is so important that every Member wants to speak. That is the problem. That is the perpetual quarrel between the Chair and the Members on the question of time.

SHRI RAJ MOHAN GANDHI: We have to ask ourselves where the security of the Tamils of Sri Lanka lies. In my view, one, it lies in the unity of the Tamils in Sri Lanka. Second, it lies in the support that India can give. But in my view most importantly it lies in the friendship, goodwill and good sense of the Sinhalese majority of Sri Lanka. Keeping this in mind, if a Parliamentay delegation goes from here—I hope it will—let us make sure that this delegation meets the Tamils, the Sinhalese and representatives of all the groups in Sri Lanka.

Recently, when I was in Agra, I saw that the Jatawas, who were thrown out of the villages, were not going back to the villages because the Jats in those villages do not want them back. When I was in Bhagalpur, I saw that Muslims thrown out of their villages are unable to go back to the villages because the Hindus in the area do not want them back. Ultimately a solution in Sri Lanka will

[Shri Raj Mohan Gandhi]

have to take into account and require the coperation of the Sinhalese majority as well. That is the one point, I thought I would make.

Next, I would speak on the Accord. The intentions of the Accord, I am sure, were excellent. But what happened when the IPKF went there? The Sinhalese regarded that as a foreign, army and fairly soon the majority of the Tamils also regarded the IPKF as an unwanted force.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: No.

SHRI RAJ MOHAN GANDHI: Please allow me to express my views. and finally the IPKF came back. In my view the mistake of the Accord was this. The Accord should have been between the Tamils of Sri Lanka and Government of Sri Lanka and not between India and the Government of Sri Lanka. India should have been an umpire. Mrs. Natarajan used the word guarantor. You cannot be a guarantor or an accord to which you are a party. You can be a guarantor for an accord to which other people are a party. Now, the task of India is to use its influence with Sri Lanka, with the Tamils and with the Sinhalese, and to bring those parties to an immediate settlement. It is not easy. I am not saying it is easy. Given the background, it is going to be very difficult, because we have earned enormous distrust in the Sinhala-speaking areas and in the Tamil-speaking areas. I am not saying this is the previous Government's fault, but this is the reality today. We do not have as much goodwill in the Tamil districts or in the Sinhalese districts in Sri Lanka as we should have. We must obtain that to the best of our ability.

Having said that I support the despatch at the earliest of a Parliamentary delegation to Sri Lanka. The Tamils are suffering, the Tamils are dying and they have been suffering and dying for many many years. For so many years they have not had peace or friendship or any kind of happiness. So, I support the sentiments of everybody and urge our Government to do every single thing that they can.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR): Now, I do not want to incur the continued displeasure of Prof. Sourendra Bhattacharjee. He is normally a very quiet and unexcited person. But he felt offended. Prof. Bhattacharjee, it is not the intention of anybody in this Chair to ignore any Member. But the whole question is you have to be here to realise that it is the esiest way to lose friends to be in the Chair. I do not want to be one of those in this evening to lose you as a friend. I am deeply interested in listening to you as any other Member is but the question is we are running short of Vice-Chairmen here. You cannot speak unless somebody is here and I have an engagement, I will be leaving. So either you conclude the proceedings today or continue this. It does not make an difference to an individual Vice-Chairman. So if you want to make a brief intervention, you are most welcome.

PROF. SOURENDRA BHATTACHARJEE (West Bengal): Mr. Vice-Chairman those who are in the House very unfortunately—there are many occasions—have to act against their own grain. That is the whole trouble. But anyway we are here to express ourselves on various issues and a very buring issue is the Sri Lanka issue, as we all know. It is not possible in a speech in this House or that House or anywhere else to suggest a way out of the impasse that has been created not just today but it was created when the Sri Lanka Accord was signed between Rajiv Gandhi and Jayewardene. Yesterday a speaker pointed out that the President of Sri Lanka was at that time crossing swords with JVP and he required a respite and out of the sense of urgency regarding the respite in another front, in order not to fight on two fronts, the cooperation of the Government of India was sought. With what result we know, the IPKF of the Government of

India at one stage trained up and armed the LTTE. The then Tamil Nadu Government handed over Rs. 4 crores to LTTE. The IPKF had to fight for the extermination of this very LTTE and it goes without saying that while we are unable to support all the activities of the LTTE, it represents the Tamil spirit in Sri Lanka even now. There cannot be two opinions about that, When the IPKF was engaged in a fight with the LTTE and the LTTE on its part joined hands later on with Premadasa, it was a situation where everything was rather topsy-turvy. The responsibility for it was not with Mr. Gujral or with Mr. Vishwanath Pratap Singh but it was Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, Mr. Narasimha Rao and his team who by their own choice landed the country into such a discomfiture and such a very contradictory position through its declared air of ensuring the protection of the interest of Sinhala Tamilians. These Tamilians —there are other Tamilians who migrated from India in recent times— but the Sinhala Tamilians, as was pointed out by one speaker are perhaps living there even from before the days of Snhalas. We do not know. As a student of history, I cannot say for certain; there is some myth. But we are not concerned with myths. We are concerned with ground realities today. The ground reality is the internal fight continues on the soil of Sri Lanka in what is called Tamil land where the Sinhala army is fighting with anything possible to completely crush the LTTE and the Sinhala Tamil population of Sri Lanka and in the crusade—yesterday, Mr. Gopalsamy, referred to it—I had questioned during this Session whether the Sri Lankan air force attacked Indian fishing boats in India's territorial waters. The reply was in the negative. Yesterday, it was repeated by Mr. Gopalsamy. The Government of India must clarify, the External Affairs Minister must clarify what has been happening there since it is there in all the newspapers that this is being done. What do we do about that? It is understood that no country, however big, can attack, can send army as was demanded earlier by Dr. Subramanian Swamy, and even he repeated it today, to any other sovereign state, however small it may be. What happens in that case is being witnessed in the case of Iraq's invasion of Kukait. So with such realities before us, perhaps, it will be very rash to talk of military intervention. Perhaps, nobody has suggested it. But it should not be thought of. A repetition of the IPKF exercise—somebody suggested—is also I think not possible. Then what remains is pressure of international opinion against genocide by the Sinhala Island Government and at the same time, diplomatic pressure to the island country in all other possible means. These are the things, these are the alternatives or these are the options which are left to us, together with our responsibility for providing relief to a large number of people who had to come away from their home and hearth to our country. That is our responsibility. But regarding not allowing the extremists, I think it will be a very utopian thing to say that. There is no dossier with the Government of India as to who is a militant and who is not. How to prevent the entry of militants? Tha dossier, if at all, might be provided by Mossad which was at the service of Sri Lanka Government and perhaps, still in the service of Sri Lanka Government but from the Government of Israel, the Government of India won't get any help in the matter. Therefore, there is no use of talking like that. What is imperaitve is that it should be ensured that there is real self-determination. What was done in North-East Sri Lanka was bad enough. That sham election has been the source of main trouble. The IPKF, the then Government of Inda, in the interest of pressing down the LTTE, which in a way was its protege, in that. I will contest, the Government of India propped up the EPRLF Government. This was a sham show—no recognition of Tamils' right of self-determination. So what is necessary is to ensure real self-deter-

[Prof. Sourandra Bhattacharjee]

mination for the Tamil people and to have no sham election but real election there. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR): Now, Mr. Minister. (*Interruption*).

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir,..

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR): Already it is late.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: The State Minister is replying. The Government cannot consider the Sri Lankan Tamil issue an unimportant issue.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR): You have already made your speech.

SHRI V. NARAYANSAMY: where is the Cabiet Minister? He is very much here. They should not discriminate. (*Interruptions*) I am sorry to say that this Government is not serious about the Sri Lanka issue.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH): No. No. Mr. Vice-Chairman. (*Interruptions*)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P THAKUR): Please sit down, all of you.

SHRI V. NARAYANSAMY: The DMK party people do not know when to support and how to support.

SHRI T. A. MOHAMMED SAQHY: Who are you to ask about the DMK?

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: He went to Kuwait. He went to Iraq. (*Interruptions*). The Cabinet Minister should be present here.

SHR S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: He was very much here.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR): All of you, please sit down. The fact of the matter is that the Minister was here. Technically, the Union Minister of State is as good a representative of the Government as any of his Cabinet colleagues. The other point is, I know for certain that a 7 o'clock, a meeting of the Consultative Committee on external affairs is scheduled. Think of a situation where he does not show up there. It is as much a Committee of the House as any other Committee. I am sure the Government does not mean any sort of lack of seriousness with regard to this. Let us hear the Minister.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: It was not scheduled in the evening. It was in the morning. Then it was postponed. That is my information as far as the Consultative Committee is concerned.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR): That I do not know. I have got the notice only at 7 o'clock. Your information may be (*Interruption*). I am also a Member there.

श्री राम अवधेश सिंह : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, हर पार्टी को दो-दो मिनट भी न दीजिएगा ? आप हमारे अधिकार की रक्षा कीजिए . . . (व्यवधान)...

उपसभा ध्यक्ष (प्रो० च द्रेश पी० ठाकुर) अभी भट्टाचार्यजी इतने नराज हो गए, इसलिए उनको समय दिया । देखिए ढाई घंटे का समय दिया गया था . . . . (व्यवधान)

श्री राम अवधेश सिंह : मैं केवल तीन मिनट मांग रहा हूं . . . (व्यवधान)

उपसभा यक्ष (प्रो० च द्रेश पी० ठाकुर) : आप अब मंत्री जी को बोलने दीजिए । आप ऐसा मत कीजिए । कभी-कभी तो आप हमारी बात भी मान लीजिए . . . (व्यवधान) सुनिए, मिनिस्टर साहब खड़े हैं . . .

श्री राम अवधेश सिंह : अब मैं सुनूंगा नहीं । मैं वाकआउट करूंगा । हमारी पार्टी का ब्यू इस पर सुनते ही नहीं । हमेशा हमारे साथ ऐसा होता है, मिनिस्टर को खड़ा कर देते हैं । हर पार्टी को दो-दो मिनट देते हैं । मैं इसके लिए वाक आउट करता हूं . . . (व्यवधान)

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो० चन्द्रेश पी० ठाकुर): आप थे नहीं, आपका नाम सोचा गया होगा . . . (व्यवधान)

श्री राम अवधेश सिंह : एक पार्टी से पांच आदमियों को बुलाते हैं और एक पार्टी से एक आदमी को भी नहीं बुलाते हैं :

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो० चन्द्रेश पी० ठाकुर): आपको बैठाने की यह कीमत है तो आप बोल लीजिए . . .

कुछ माननीय सदस्य : ये तो वाकआउट कर गये थे . . . (व्यवधान)

SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Is he in or out? He was walking out.

श्री हरि किशोर सिंह : एक मिनट बोलने दीजिए ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR): The Minister of External Affairs has extended a courtesy to the Member. Mr. Ram Awadhesh, you please speak.

SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA (Karnataka): He has walked out, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR): He was half-way. Ram Awadheshji, you withdraw your walk-out.

श्री राम अवधेश सिंह जी दो मिनट में बोलकर खत्म करिए । (व्यवधान)

श्री हेच० हनुमनतप्पा : यह क्या परम्परा है कि इनको वापस बुलाकर बोलने को कह दिया ? (व्यवधान)

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो० चन्द्रेश पी० ठाकुर) एक मिनट बोलकर खत्म करेंग ।

श्री हेच० हनुमन तप्पा : जबर्दस्ती से आप उन्हें बुला रहे हैं । यह गलत है । वह वाक आउट करके जा रहे थे तो आपने उनको बोलने का मौका दे दिया, यह गलत परम्परा है ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो० चन्द्रेश पी०ठाकुर): राम अवधेश सिंह जी का सदन से विशेष प्रेम है । (व्यवधान)

श्री राम अवधेश सिंह : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, जब-जब श्रीलंका के बारे में बातचीत हुई, इस सदन में बहस हुई तो मैंने कहा है कि जो मूल गलती हुई है वह 29 जुलाई, 1987 को हुई है जब श्रीलंका में जाकर भारत के प्रधान मंत्री द्वारा एकार्ड पर दस्तखत हुए । उस वक्त भी मैंने कहा था यह भारत के गले में हड्डी फंस गई है । यह हड्डी जल्दी निकलने वाली नहीं है । यह हड्डी ऐसी फंसी है कि आज हम ऐसी विषम स्थिति में फंस गए हैं कि हम सोच रहे हैं क्या करें । (व्यवधान) प्रश्न यह है कि क्या भारत मई, 1987 की भूमिका अदा करे या भारत अक्तूबर, 1987 की भूमिका अदा करे । भारत के सामने दो विकट सवाल खड़े हैं । 1987 में भारत जबर्दस्ती बिना बुलाए ही हवाई जहाज से राशन, दवा लेकर गया, उस समय भी जेनोसाइड कहां हो रही थी । श्रीलंका की सरकार ने वहां भी कहा था कि आप मत आइए हमारे यहां, लेकिन भारत सरकार ने कहा कि हम जायंगे, जेनोसाइड हो रहा है। दवा लेकर गये और भी बहुत सामग्री लेकर गये हथियार लेकर गये या नहीं हम नहीं कह सकते लेकिन सारे साधन उनको मुहैय्या कराये । ऐसी गलत नीति भारत सरकार की थी । फिर तीन महीने के बाद हमको उन्हीं लोगों को मारने जाना पड़ा । उन्हीं लोगों से लड़ाई करने जाना पड़ा उनको बचाने के लिए हम जबर्दस्ती बिना बुलाये गये । सरकार के बुलाने पर भारतीय शांति सेना गई और हम हथियार वगैरह लेकर गये ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR): I am requesting a senior Member of the House who was earlier on the panel of Vice-Chairmen, to take the Chair—I hope it is the pleasure of the House—since I have a meeting to attend.

[The Vice Chairman (Shri G. Swaminathan) in the Chair]

श्री राम अवधेश सिंह: मुझे भी जल्दी जाना है किसी से अपाएंटमेंट है इसलिए मैं भी जल्दी में हूं।

भारत सरकार के सामने बहुत गहरा संकट आ गया है कि आज की स्थिति में पुनः राशन गिरायें, दवा लेकर गिराएं या अक्तूबर की तरह हथियार लेकर तमिल लोगों को बचाने का काम करें। ये दोनों गहरे सवाल हैं। डिप्लोमेसी में सवाल सुलझने वाला नहीं है। कुछ दिनों पहले प्रेमदासा और प्रभाकरन दोनों ने एक साथ कहा कि भारत की सेना निकालो। प्रेमदासा जितनी जो से बोलते थे उससे ज्यादा जोर से प्रभाकरन बोलते हैं। दोनों एक साथ कहते हैं . . .

श्री हरेन्द्र सिंह खपाल (पंजाब) : यह बात बहुतदफा कही जा चुकी है। (व्यवधान)

श्री ऐच० हनुमनतप्पा : आप बोलते जाइए।

राम नरेश यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश) : जब दोनों भारतीय सेना को निकालने की बात करते हैं तो आज फिर भारत क्या भूमिका अदा करेगा यह मैं जानना चाहता हूं।

श्री रामअवधेश सिंह: आज क्या भूमिका अदा की जाय, यह बड़ा संकट का सवाल है। लेकिन एक उपाय है कि भारत को चाहिए कि अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय बड़े राष्ट्रों से या अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय जगत में दबाव डालकर वहां जो जनोसाइड हो रहा है, जो हत्याएं हो रही हैं और जो घायलों को दवादारू नहीं मिल रही है, इसके लिए उपाय किये जाएं और यू एन-ओ० के पास इस मामले को लिया जाय और सिक्योरिटी कौंसिल के पास भी जाया जाय और जो भी हो सकता है, रेडक्राम को कहा जाय ताकि वे उस जगह पर जायें और जाने के बाद घायलों की दवादारू करें, उनके इलाज की व्यवस्था करें, और डिप्लोमैटिक स्तर भी जितना हो सकता है किया जाय। हमारे पास व्यवस्था नहीं है कि जबर्दस्ती दवा भेज सकें या अपनी फ़ौजें भेज सकें। इसका अंजाम हमने देख लिया है। अब हमें अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय जगत में कोशिश करनी चाहिए। उनको राहत पहुंचानी चाहिए। तमिल लोगों को प्रशासनिक और राजनैतिक व्यवस्था दी जाय जिससे उनको सन्तुष्टि मिले और राजपाट में उनको हिस्सेदारी मिले।

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH): Mr. Vice-Chairman, honourable Members in this House have given vent to their anguish and concern about the deteriorating situation in Sri Lanka. This is natural and uderstandable. The whole House shares the feeling of concern expressed by the honourable Members. The Prime Minister issued a statement two days ago giving expression once again to the Government's serious concern. As honourable Members are aware, in keeping with the manifesto commitment of the National Front Government we completed the deinduction of IPKF from Sri Lanka on 24th March 1990. We have always been of the view that the ethnic problem of Sri Lanka is a matter to be solved peacefully by the Sri Lankan people themselves. And we had hoped when our soldiers left Sri Lanka that all Sri Lankans would realise the futility of military solutions and armed conflicts, that all parties to the conflict would sit across the negotiating table and work for a just and durable solution. Unfortunately events have not unfolded as we had hoped. What we are seeing in Sri Lanka today is the large number of people who had to

hardening of positions of the parties in the conflict and this has resulted in the resumption or intensification of the violence resulting in untold misery and suffering to tens of thousands of innocent civilians, both Tamils and Sinhalese. And there have been reports of heavy civilian casualties in the north-east. There are reports of increasing communal tension and brutal inter-communal killings. There have also been reports of indiscriminate aerial bombings of densely populated areas. These reports have caused us serious concern and deep anguish. We have clearly and categorically conveyed our sense of concern to the Sri Lankan Government and have urged them to take steps to avoid or minimise civilian suffering. One of the mainuestations of the escalation of violence is the complete insecurity for the ordinary man in this area and the second flood of refugees to India. Since August 1989 over 85,000 Tamilian refugees have come to Tamil Nadu. Taken together with the earlier refugees who have not gone back, the total number of refugees in Tamil Nadu is over 1,75,000. Chief Minister Karunanidhi and the people of Tamil Nadu, in the highest humanitarian traditions of our country, have done their best to provide temporary sanctuaries to the refugees. When the old camps were filled up, new camps have been opened. The administrative mechanism of Tamil Nadu has reached the limits but it has cooperated without a demur. The burden of such a large number of newly arrived refugees along with the already existing backlog of refugees is quite heavy, not only in financial terms, but also in terms of the strain on the State's administrative and law and order machinery. However, with the full co-operation of the people of Tamil Nadu, we have been able to shoulder this burden. We have been in regular touch with the Tamil Nadu Government all these days. There is an urgent need to stem the refugee flow and one mechanism we have explored. We have explored the possibility of opening refugee camps in Sri Lanka itself by the Sri Lankan Governmen with supervision by international agencies. This idea was further discussed with the Sri Lankan Government who are equally concerned and positive in their reaction. However, the location of these camps in areas which are witnesses to large-scale violence will need the co-operation of the LTTE also.

Some locations were earlier discussed and other locations are still under consideration. We have offered to the Sri Lankan Government any possible assistance that may be required in the fruition of this idea. Unfortunately, one casualty of the present confict, which it is easy ot lose sigh of, is the realisation of the legitimate interests of the Tamil people of Sri Lanka. We have always upheld this and we have always believed that the only durable solution is the one in which the aspirations of the Sri Lankan Tamils can be met within the framework of the unity and integrity of Sri Lanka. This can only be done through peaceful negotations. Neither a military solution nor an armed conflict can bring the situation closer to a definite solution. A democratic and peaceful solution is the only way. With the Indo-Sri Lanka agreement of July 1987, a grat deal was initiated for the creation of a framework for the devolution of powers to Sri Lankan Tamils. This framework must be concretised, be allowed to work, to evolve and to strengthen itself. The Sri Lankan Tamils should be assured that they would be able to live as equal citizens with honour and dignity and would be allowed to have a greater say in the running of their affairs.

We again appeal to both the sides to give up recourse to gun and violence, to sit together and to work together as Sri Lankan ctibens for peace and for the common good.

Sir, there is a consensus in this House for sending a parliamentary

[Shri Hari Kishore Singh]

delegation to Sri Lanka. The Government is agreeable to this and arrangements are being made very soon for this. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, I have got two important questions to ask. The Minister's reply is not satisfactory.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, the Minister has not responded to the queries raised by the Members here. We wanted to know from the Government as to what it is doing to solve the ethnic problem of the Tamils in Sri Lanka. But the Government has not come with any concrete proposal. One point the Minister has made and he has said that within the framework of the Indo-Sri Lanka agreement the other aspects have to be concretised. This is what he said. Sir, in this direction, for the past nine months, what has the Government done?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN): You ask your question.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Yes, I am asking my questions. What has the Government done in this direction? Sir, the honourable Minister has taken the issue very lightly and his reply is very general, as if it is between some other countries and as if it is does not concern India.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: You ask your question. What do you want?

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: I want the Minister to spell out the policy of the Government on Sri Lanka. The Government has not told anything about this. The Minister has been replying for the past fifteen minutes and there is nothing in it. I want this Government to come out with proposals to solve the ethnic crisis there. Let the Government spell out its proposals and let the Minister inform this House. Let the House be taken into confidence.

SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Yes, Sir.

PROF. SOURENDRA BHATTACHARJEE: Sir, coming from the side of the Government, it is a disappointing statement and it has not dealt with the many suggestions which emanated during the course of the discussion in this House Sir, this reaction to the reply is normal. We would expect the Government to come forward with a comprehensive statement. We would expect the Government to come out with a comprehensive statement (*Interruptions*)

SHRI S. K. T RAMACHANDRAN: He has not removed apprehensions. What specific steps has the Miniser taken? They have not come out with a reply. (*Interruptions*)

AN HON. MEMBER: Is it the reply of the Minister or statement?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN): Minister's statement is a reply. (*Interruptions*) He understand the ansxiety of the Members.

SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: The situation in Sri Lanka is very serious. Bombing is going on. Something should be done to stop the bombing. People are dying. There is no food, no medicine; nothing is there. The Government of India should take some initiative to supply medicines and food immediately for the dying people. Refugees are coming in thousands and thousands. It is an attack on the economy, Indian economy, or on our Tamilians. Something concrete should be done and to take immediate steps to stop genocide. (*Interruptions*)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN): You have already told.

PROF. SOURENDRA BHATTACHARJEE: The statement should be forthcoming next week.

SHRI TINDIVANM G. VENKATARAMAN (Tamil Nadu): In delegation we do not find anything substantial. Therefore, we want a complete statement tomorro..... .. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: He was given time to come up with

SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATARAMAN: You have got the right to say that. I am expressing my opion. You have got that. I have nothing to complain. Perhaps he may not be in a position to cover everything. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: He is taking the Sri Lankan issue as a second class citizens' problem. Is it not a serious issue? You have not taken any step. (*Interruptions*),

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN): If you want to ask for any clarifications, you can. But do not argue. That is not right. The Minister has already given the statement.

SHRI H. MANUMANTHAPPA: One minute. Actually, the partner of the National Front Govrenment, the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, has sent an SOS letter to the Indian Government. What is the reaction? Two, SAARC as an institution is still existing. Sri Lanka is a member of SAARC. What initiatives the Government of India has taken under the framework of SAARC? Thirdly, India was in a position where Sri Lanka depended on it for help. Today the situation has charged. Sri Lanka does not believe in India for negotiations and reconciliation. They are expecting another international.... (*Interruptions*)

In the changed situation what is the stand of the Indian Government Three questions.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Sir, the anguish which the hon. Members have expressed is shared by the Government, by the House and the whole country. But one factor which we forget is that Sri Lanka is a sovereign country. ..... (*Interruptions*)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN): Allo the Minister.. (*Interruptions*) Order, order.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: But we cannot take the steps which the Members may intend—however desirable, in reference to a sovereign country. We have received the telegram from the hon Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Shri Karunanidhi. The Government is seized of the matter. The Government is pursuing this matter through diplomatic channels. We are doing all that we can do through diplomatic channels. The response of the Sri Lankan Government has been positive so far.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

We have emphasised on the Sri Lankan Government that bombarding and other things which are causing severe casualties should be stopped. We have to persuade them.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: What happened to the terms of the Indo-Sri Lanka Agreement? What steps have you taken? (*Interruptions*)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Narayanasamvii. I have just come Please take your seat. I understand your sentiments. I understand the sentiments on the right and the left I would request you to allow the Minister to have his say.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: The Miinster has not said anything, Madam.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have not heard anything. Let him say whatever he wants to say. If

[The Deputy Chairman]

you still have some points which you think have not been clarified, then there are other ways of raising them. You can ask him. He might enquire and come back and tell you. At least, let him finish.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: The Indian Government will not do anything, Madam We are not satisfied with the reply of the Minister. This Government has no policy on Sri Lanka. They are not going to save the Sri Lankan Tamils. We are walking out.

[*At this stage, the hon. Member left the chamber.*]

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He is not satisfied. Please sit down. I want to find out if there is anything. If you are not satisfied, I am sure the Minister can inform you later on. By getting agitated you will not get anything out of him.

SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Everyday thousands of Tamils are being killed there. In his reply there is no mention of any action to arrest the situation there. He says Sri Lanka is a foreign country. The Government has no interest in the Tamils there. (*Interruptions*) It is a foreign country. I am not denying it. But the Tamils are being killed there. (*Interruptions*)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat. I do not know who is talking to whom.

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Genocide is going on and he is talking about sovereignty.

SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: I am on my legs.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order, please. I understand the sentiments of the people. Tamilians are being killed in Sri Lanka. You are worried about it. By talking at cross purposes and by getting agitated on each other, are we going to save their lives? We should strengthen the hands of the Government in whichever way we can. We can give suggestions to the Minister. He might get some idea from you. Please don't get agitated. This is my humble request to you. Let him finish

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Our brothers are being killed, our sisters are being raped....

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let him finish. I know it. I also read news papers. I also have sources of information. I understand it. I am not denying your sentiments. But if you don't get agitated, you may be able to find a solution. We have to find a solution. Right? So, let us do it in a very cool, peaceful atmosphere. (*Interruption*) Just a minute. He is on his feet.

SHRI ASHIS SEN (West Bengal): He was walking out. He has come back.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I requested him not to walk out.

SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Madam, the situation is very grave, as you also expressed your concern and agony. The Minister in his reply has not taken into account the queries raised by the Members from both the sides.

He did not at all take into consideration whatever we said. He simply made a vague statement. At last, as a solution, he said that the Tamils and the Sri Lankan Govenment should be brought to the negotation table. What steps the Govenment have aken in the last nine months to bring the two groups to the negotiation table? I want a categorical reply from the Minister.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now I heard you. (*Interruption*) Just a minute. Let me ask the Minister..

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: Madam, on behalf of my Party, I also

wihs to say that we are very much distressed....

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I would suggest one thing. There is no question of party here. It is a question of the House. Let me find out from him what he has to say.

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: A bland statement was made by the Minister. At least, the Minister can say that the matter can be considered or he can say...
(Interruptions)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Just a second. One by one.

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: That suitable action will be taken. He has given a bland reply. And somebody says that it is a sovereign country. *(Interruptions)*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Just a minute. Just a question is being put, Mr. Minister. I can understand the Members being so agitated. They only want to ask from you: What have you done as a Mnister or as a Government to solve this problem? It may not be very major. Even if it is minor, even if it is one step you can say about it. Now, please listen to him.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Madam, this is a very serious problem. And all of us in this House and the country at large are concerned with this. Three days back, the Prime Minister in the other House made a statement in regard to the aerial bombardment. We are using diplomatic channels to persuade and to put pressure on the Sri Lankan Government to cease the aerial bombardment so that civilian casuality is to the minimum. Now, regarding the refugee and relief measures, I have said in my statement that we have pursued with the Sri Lankan Government that it should be organised under the supervision of the international authorities, that relief which we sent from here, whether the food material or medicine, is properly utilised and properly supervised.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You want to use the United Nations agency for Refugees.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: We have taken steps.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: .. .. for Red Cross

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: We have taken steps. The Sri Lankan Government has suggested certain camp sites. And in regard to, the establishment of those camp sites, the co-operation of LTTE is also required. so, we are in touch through various channels to establish these camps. And ultimately there has to be a negotiated settlement between the parties concerned between the Sri Lankan people themselves. And in that direction we are taking steps. There has been almost a consensus in this House. Many Members have demanded sending a Parliamentary delegation to Sri Lanka. And the Government has agreed to it. And we are taking steps to send that delegation. *(Interruptions)*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Just a minute. Now, I would suggest that whatever the Government has done, the Minister has explained. Now, if any one of you have any suggestions in this regard, if you like, you may write to him. Or. if you would like to tell him now. I can permit you to do that. If you feel that somethng more should have been done, you can say that. They can also get guidance from your suggestions. I will allow you.

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: They should exert political and diplomatic pressure to see that the aerial bomobardment is stopped immediately. The Government should do that.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Very good. He said that they are doing it, that the Prime Minister is doing it. He said that. They will use the diplomatic and other channels.

SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR: Will the Government explore the possibility of using the forum of SAARC to bring about a settlement here?

SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: I asked this question. He did not reply.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The suggestion has come, Mr. Minister, that we have the forum of SAARC. The Members feel that you should make use of it.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: We have no objection.

SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Madam, I am very much annoyed After two days of discussion, at the end of it, a wrong message is being given. The reply carries a wrong message. After all the anguish, anger and concern which had been expressed in the last two days, the whole thing was watered down by the Minister's reply. He says: We may be anguished, but don't forget that Sri Lanka is a sovereign country'. Madam, we know that it is a sovereign country. But we have our stake there, our blood, our brethern. Even though it is a sovereign country, we cannot be silent spectators. This message should have gone. I expected that this message would go from the Government. We should bear in mind the regional environment and the security environment. The question of India's security is involved. India's brethern are involved. Our own people, our kith and kin, are involved. They are being killed every day. Under the umbrella of sovereignty, Sri Lanka cannot continue like this. This message should have gone from the Government. But you are only giving a wrong message by this sort of reply. A wrong message is being sent from Delhi to Colombo. India cannot be a silent spectator. India is not a weak country. Even if it be a sovereign country or a big country or even a super-power, for that matter, India cannot tolerate when it misbehaves with Indians. This is the message which should go from the Government.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I would again tell the hon. Minister that this is the consensus of the House. This is what I feel. This is the consensus of the House, including the Chair that the Government should take more initiative....

SHRI ASHIS SEN: It is a unanimous opinion.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:.... and use their best endeavours to protect the lives of the people in Sri Lanka. Many countries are sovereign countries. Still, we have to protect our people over there. Is it okay? Is everybody satisfied? Is there anything more?

AN HON. MEMBER: Adjourn the House.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN That I would do only when Members go from here satisfied. We have had a long discussion. I would not like anybody to go from here unsatisfied. We convey the anguish, worry and unhappiness of the House to the Minister so that he takes appropriate measures.

PASUMPON THA. KIRUTTINAN: Madam, I associate myself with what Mr. Hanumanthappa has said. I request the hon. Minister to spell out as to what is the concrete action the Government of India is taking to stop the bombardment. The Tamils are being killed every day. There is a large influx of the Tamil population from Sri Lanka to Tamil Nadu. Is it not an aggression on our economy? What steps the Government of India is taking to stop this aggression, this type of aggression?

SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Why don't we mobilise the world community for imposing sanctions when we are doing it elsewhere? Why don't we mobilise world opinion?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Government should take all measures to solve this problem.

SHRI PASUMPON THA. KIRUTTINAN: Madam, Sinhalese army is cutting hands and legs of the young fellows, irrespective of the Tamil groups, whether they belong to LTTE, EPRF or any other group. The hands and legs of young fellows are being cut. Atrocities are being committed on Tamilians. Unfortunately our own blood, our own brothers and sisters are living in Sri Lanka, in our neighbouring country. In the name of a neighbouring country or a sovereign country you should not throw this problem into air. The Government of India should take immediate action to see that bombardment is stopped, influx of refugees in this country is stopped. It is no use sending delegations from India to Sri Lanka. This alone will not solve the problem. This is our view.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Whatever information the Minister had he has given to the House. All of you have given suggestions. If the Minister had made a statement or given clarifications, it is a different thing, but in the light of the suggestions made in the House, if the Government took appropriate measures, the House and the people in the country would be satisfied.

SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: I would like to make one concrete suggestion. The Government should take into confidence the people and on behalf of the people all the leaders of different parties. They should have discussions with them and arrive at a consensus.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What I have said included everything that after taking into consideration every possible measure which is being suggested here or which has not been suggested, if the Government comes forward to solve this problem, our interest is served. Our interest is to see that the problem is solved. Whichever way the Government can do it, let it take necessary steps. As Members of this House, we can strengthen the hands of the Government. We will extend all our support. Thank you.

The House stands adjourned till 11 O'clock tomorrow.

The House then adjourned at thirty-three minutes past seven of the clock till eleven of the clock on Friday, the 31st August, 1990.